



# R & D NEWS



Janet Napolitano, Governor

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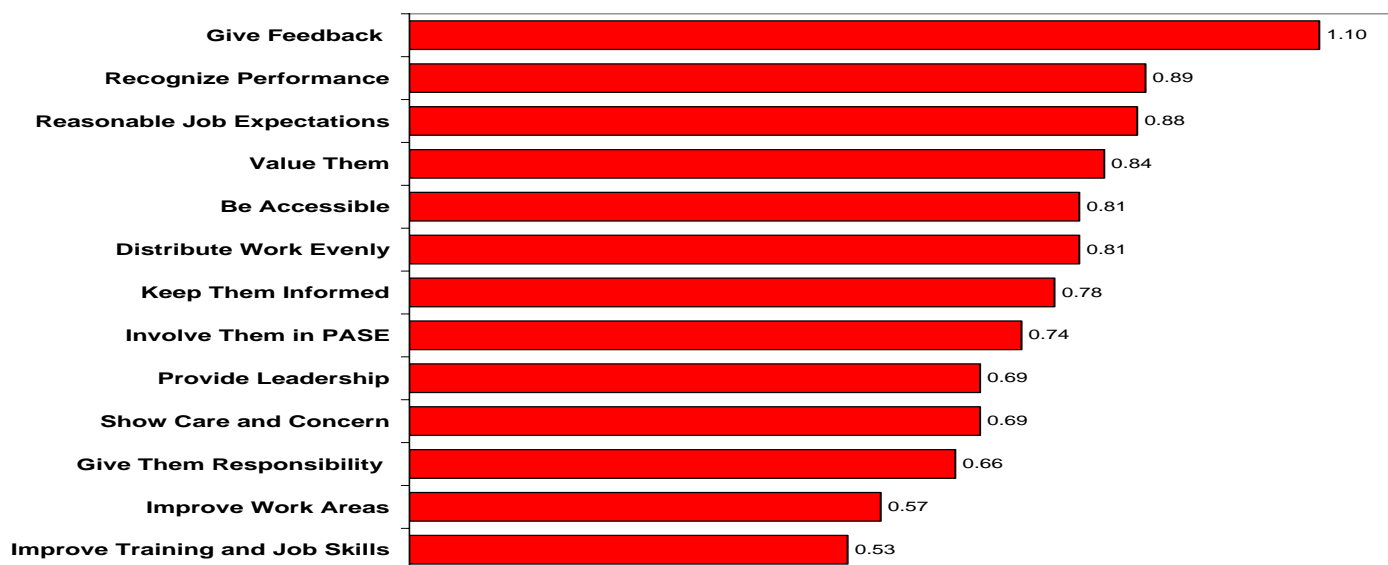
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## YOUTH CORRECTIONAL OFFICER I RECOMMENDED RETENTION AND SUPERVISION PRACTICES

Figure 1:



R/D conducted a study on YCO retention and found that supervision was important to retention. Figure 1 displays the 13 supervision practices deemed relevant to retention. The numbers at the end of each bar indicate the relative importance of each practice. *Give Feedback*, for example, was the most important supervision practice, and it was twice as important as *Improve Training and Job Skills*.

Note: The average daily population numbers for Catalina Mountain and Black Canyon Schools were erroneously switched in Figure 1 of the March-April 2004 *R/D News*. The correct figures have been posted on our website: [www.adjc.az.gov](http://www.adjc.az.gov), under Offices and Publications, Research and Development, Publications.

### **ARIZONA JUVENILE JUSTICE TRIVIA**

How does New Zealand incorporate offenders' families into their juvenile justice system?

David Farrington, Darrick Jolliffe, J. David Hawkins, Richard Catalano, Karl Hill and Rick Kosterman, *Comparing Delinquency Careers in Court Records and Self Reports*, *Criminology*, August 2003. Farrington et al., seek to compare the delinquency records of cases based on self-reports and official court records. The authors sought to compare how the prevalence of offending and individual offending rates compared across the two delinquency sources. Their study was based on a longitudinal study of 808 juveniles in Seattle. The researchers found that individual offending frequencies varied considerably between the two

sources. "As expected, the prevalence of offending was much higher in self-reports at all ages. In total, 85.9% of youths admitted committing at least one of ...eight offenses, and 34% were referred to court for at least one offense." According to self-reports, each offender averaged 49.2 offenses, while in court records, they averaged only 4.6 offenses. The researchers found that both self-report and court referral data identified the same juveniles as the worst offenders. With regard to the effectiveness of the criminal justice system they found that "...36.7% of self-reported offenders were referred to court, but only 3.5% of self-reported offenses led to a court referral." The average offender committed about 26 offenses before their first court referral. "The criminal justice system was not very efficient in bringing offenders to court. Overall, only about one-third of all offenders were referred to court, and the probability of an offender being referred to court was greater than one in three for only one type of offense – vehicle theft."

Thomas McNulty and Paul Bellair, *Explaining Racial and Ethnic Differences in Serious Adolescent Violent Behavior*, Criminology, August 2003.

McNulty and Bellair studied the variation in juvenile violent crime rates by examining the effects of one's race/ethnicity and community upon delinquency rates. Their study included data from 13,460 juveniles in the National Longitudinal Survey of Adolescent Health. They found that black, Hispanic and Native American juveniles experienced significantly higher rates of serious violence than whites. They also found that Asian juveniles experienced significantly lower rates of serious violence than whites. They found that "...minority group members are exposed to a community context marked by considerable disadvantage and correlates of it, such as diminished family well being, weaker social bonds and heightened exposure to gangs and violence." The authors concluded that "...individual and family level risk factors (including diminished family resources, lack of mainstream attachment, the allure of gangs and vulnerability to violence) are correlated with community, which is intertwined with race/ethnicity via the medium of place stratification."

Juvenile Justice Evaluation Center, *Juvenile Justice Program Evaluation: An Overview*, June 2003.

Program evaluation constitutes a necessary component in program planning and management. This report was prepared to assist juvenile justice program managers with evaluating the effectiveness of their programs. The report recommends a seven step process to analyze whether a program is functioning properly: Step 1 entails identifying the problem and target population the program was created to address. Step 2 entails implementing programs that research has shown are effective in addressing the problem behavior with the target population. Step 3 entails making a connection between the program goals, objectives, and activities, thus creating a *Logic Model* for the program. Next, a set of measures should be developed to assess the degree to which program goals and objectives have been achieved. Step 5 requires the collection and analysis of program data to determine if the program objectives have been met and if any change has occurred because of the program. In Step 6 program accomplishments are identified as well as improvement areas. Step 7 involves the reassessment of the goals, objectives, and activities as outlined in the *Logic Model*. This final step is the process whereby the connection between the program goals, measures, and outcomes are reassessed to determine whether the program is functioning according to purpose. Program evaluation is an ongoing process that includes program development, assessment, and revision.

### **ARIZONA JUVENILE JUSTICE TRIVIA ANSWER**

New Zealand includes offenders, their families, victims, police and invited guests into group discussions regarding the appropriate consequences for delinquent acts. The juvenile offender and his/her family propose to the group the consequences the juvenile should receive.